

# The Northwest MISSOURIAN



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THURSDAY Feb. 19, 2009 | V84 | N20

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## THIS WEEK

### CAMPUS

#### Ash Wednesday

Distribution of Ashes for Lent will be noon on Feb. 25 at the Newman Center.

The Mass will kick off the 40-day season at the Newman Center and is open to all students.

#### Women's Defense

Northwest Campus Safety Department is offering self-defense training courses this spring.

The sessions will be four three hours sessions at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 2, through Thursday, March 5.

The courses are free to all women, and taught by police officers.

For more information contact Kristina Martinez at 562-1254.

#### Colden Pond Plunge

Up 'Til Dawn sponsored by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is holding the Colden Pond Plunge at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27. The top contestants with the most money raised will take the 'plunge.'

### COMMUNITY

#### Local man faces time

Nathan A. Young, 21, Maryville, faces five years in the Missouri Department of Corrections after entering guilty pleas Tuesday in connection with a July 28, 2008 incident involving two Class C felonies of unlawfully possessing a motorcycle and stealing miscellaneous personal property, according to Nodaway County Prosecuting Attorney David Baird.

#### Next court date set

Richard E. Helm, 44, Garden Grove, Calif, appeared in court Tuesday for arraignment on felony assault charges following a residential break-in which police shot Helm after he allegedly pointed a gun at them on Friday inside a residence on North Icon Road just north of Maryville.

Helm awaits approval for the application of a public defender. He will next appear in court on March 10.

### BEARCATS

#### Friday-

-Track and Field @ UCM Classic in Warrensburg  
-Baseball @ Southern Arkansas 6 p.m.  
-Softball vs. St. Mary's (Texas) in Durant, Okla. 11 a.m.  
-Softball vs. Southwestern Oklahoma State in Durant, Okla. 4 p.m.

#### Saturday-

-Track and Field @ Missouri All-Corners in Columbia  
-Men's Bball @ UCM 11 a.m.  
-Baseball vs. Southern Indiana in Magnolia, Ark.  
-Women's Bball @ UCM 2 p.m.  
-Softball vs. Central Oklahoma in Durant, Okla. noon  
-Softball @ Southeastern Oklahoma State 2 p.m.

#### Sunday-

-Softball vs. Angelo State (Texas) in Durant, Okla. 10 a.m.  
-Softball vs. Newman (Kansas) in Durant, Okla. 2 p.m.

### SPOOFHOUNDS

#### Thursday-

-JV/V Girls' Bball @ Savannah 5:30

#### Friday-

-FJV/V Boys' Bball vs. Savannah 5 p.m.  
-State Wrestling in Columbia, Mo.

#### Saturday-

-State Wrestling in Columbia, Mo.

### HEALTH

## Local students butt out tobacco use

By Shane Sherwood  
Senior Reporter

Nodaway County has the lowest smoking rate in Missouri. Yet, students still want to educate people about tobacco use.

"It is still important to educate the community on secondhand smoke because for every eight smokers, they take a nonsmoker with them," the Smoke-

busters Northwest Regional Coordinator Judy Frueh said.

With the Youth Tobacco Use Prevention Implementation Program, teenage students are being educated to go out into their community and teach people on the dangers of tobacco use and secondhand smoke.

Also known as the Smokebusters Grant by Northwest officials, the

grant is implemented to educate certain individuals chosen at local middle and high schools on the dangers of secondhand smoke.

These individuals must then return the information by doing a series of programs for the community and their school about the information they learned from their training, Frueh said.

If the program is

fully implemented, the goal of the Smokebusters grant is that the students will get a new policy in their community enforced involving tobacco use, Frueh said.

Students who are trained are required to do three programs: one to their school or peers, one to adults and one for their community. These students must

See **SMOKING** on A5



photo by seih cook | photography editor

ABDUL ALMAGHRABI PUFFS on a cigarette as he and Hussain Shata have a quick smoke before class. The Smokebusters grant educates certain students on the dangers of secondhand smoke.

### SPOTLIGHT | HUMANE SOCIETY



photo by lori frankenfield | missourian photographer

BRYANA REDDING AND Jessica Humes have a playdate with some furry friends at the new Nodaway County Humane Society. The shelter is taking in an increasingly large amount of stray or otherwise unwanted pets, but adoption numbers aren't high enough to offset the increase.

## MUST LOVE DOGS

BRYANA REDDING RECIVES kisses from a dog at the new Nodaway Humane Society. Redding and her Sigma Society sisters donated goods to the animal shelter.



photo by lori frankenfield  
missourian photographer

### Humane Society struggles to find homes for unwanted pets

By Kiley Swopes  
Chief Reporter

An overflow of cats and dogs could force the New Nodaway Humane Society to turn down unwanted pets.

The Humane Society's owner release policy is an owner who is unable to care for an animal said, Will Murphy, Vice President of the Board of Directors for the New Humane Society.

For owners to drop off their pet they must pay an owner release fee of \$15 in-county or \$25 out-of-county that covers the fees of vaccination, director Cindy Nelson

said.

There are a high number of animals taken in the shelter every year due to the lack of responsibilities from the owners. Some owners are not willing to pay the release fee and cats and dogs are being found in boxes or being released in the parking lot, Murphy said.

Last year, the shelter had a total of 719 animals with 671 of the animals being brought in from pickups, the sheriff's department, public safety and strays. Only 291 were adopted, Nelson said.

See **DOGS** on A5

### UNIVERSITY NEWS

## Disaster law could provide students tax season relief

Missourian staff report

Mother Nature's wrath last year could mean significant tax relief for Northwest students and their parents this year.

Recent tax law changes will bring increased tax credits for eligible students who currently attend and pay tuition at colleges and universities, including Northwest, located in federally designated disaster areas in the Midwest.

The amounts of two educational tax credits, the Hope Credit and Lifetime Learning Credit, doubled under changes made to the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act for the 2008-2009

- **What:** Educational tax credits, Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act
- **Who:** College students attending schools within federal disaster areas
- **How Much:** Eligible students could receive up to \$3,600 and \$4,000, depending on the type of credit

school year. The act is designed to alleviate the burden of certain costs following the severe weather and floods that devastated counties across seven Midwestern states last spring and summer.

The Hope Credit was expanded to include 100 percent of the first \$2,400 in eligible expenses and 50 percent

of the next eligible \$2,400. That increases the maximum Hope Credit amount each student can receive from \$1,800 to \$3,600.

The maximum amount each student can receive under the Lifetime Learning Credit increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

In order to take advantage of these tax credits, Northwest Bursar Terri Christensen says students must know two figures: their qualified expenses and the total amount of their scholarships and grants. Qualified expenses include tuition and room/board, the latter of which is eligible exclusively under this act, she said.

The final amount students

would put on their 1098-T tax form toward the credit is the scholarship and grant total subtracted from qualified expenses, she said.

Students don't have to reside in the disaster areas; they only need to be enrolled and paying tuition at institutions within these areas.

For more information about receiving a tax credit, visit the Northwest Bursar's Web site at [Nwmissouri.edu/bursar](http://Nwmissouri.edu/bursar).

For a full description of other changes to the Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act, as well as a complete list of states and counties designated as disaster areas, visit [Irs.gov](http://Irs.gov).

### BUSINESS BUZZ

## Speculation continues on location of new Taco Bell

By Kenny Larabee  
Community News Editor

Around town or on campus, it's not hard to find excitement for a new Taco Bell.

Every time she makes the trip to St. Joseph with her husband and two girls, Maryville resident Lora Weiderholt said she and her family have to stop at Taco Bell.

"If it's around lunch time, we always go to Taco Bell," Weiderholt said. "The one thing I always order when I go there is cinnamon twists. I get them every time no matter what."

A big soft taco fan, Northwest freshman Chelsea Clippinger said a lot of students eat at Taco Bell when they make the trip south, but having one close by would be a plus for her.

"I'm pretty excited that it's coming," Clippinger said. "I'm not the type of person to go to St. Joe. If it's here, it's convenient."

Officials with the company confirmed last week that a Taco Bell is coming to Maryville in 2010. They've yet to confirm a location, however.

Speculation for the new location points to the ground on the southeast corner of Main Street and South Avenue where an old Hardee's building currently stands. Neither Tallgrass Holdings, LLC nor Hoover could be reached for comment to confirm the location for a new restaurant, however.

A check at the Nodaway County Courthouse lists Wichita, Kan.-based Tallgrass Holdings, LLC on a special warranty deed at that property. According to the Kansas Secretary of State's Web site, Paul Hoover — confirmed as the franchise owner last week — is listed as a registered agent with Tallgrass Holdings, LLC.

A new Taco Bell will be an asset for Maryville, but initially, similar restaurants could notice an impact on their business, Taco John's Manager/Operator Dave Williams said.

"Anytime you get a new business coming to town, that's an opportunity for Maryville and that's a bonus for Maryville," Williams said. "Obviously, when it's a restaurant that takes away from all of the restaurants here in town. And when it's a direct competitor it's going to further affect us."

After an initial phase, Williams said he thought Taco John's would be fine.

"We co-exist with Taco Bell in other markets," Williams said. "Initially, it's going to affect us, but I think with the long-term, everything will be OK."

Regardless of where the new Taco Bell ends up, several residents expressed their excitement for the chain's plans to come to Maryville, including Weiderholt.

"I don't care where they put it, as long as it's coming to Maryville," Weiderholt said.



VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Cast discusses performance surprises, challenges

By Elizabeth Sexton  
Chief Reporter

They call themselves “Vagina Warriors.” Others call them crazy.

Cast members answered questions about their experience in Valentine’s weekend production of “The Vagina Monologues.”

What is “The Vagina Monologues?”

**Lauren Leach:** The original purpose of the monologues was to get women talking about the complexities of female sexuality. This included perspectives on healthy sexual experiences, shame about being female, mixed feelings about maturing, and horrific stories of having been abused.

From this, grew the V-Day movement to use the monologues not just to enlighten people on the complexities of being female, but to raise money for causes that hope to stop violence against women.

**Lyzzy Robertson:** It is a play to promote women’s rights and talk about a lot of things that have been taboo as of late. I mean how often do you talk about when you got your period or describe the different kinds of moans?

**Rachel Ost:** All our proceeds must go to benefit a local women’s organization, as well – ours happens to be the Chil-

dren and Family Center. It’s so beautifully interconnected with women’s rights that it’s my reason I perform every year.

Why did you want to take part in the Vagina Monologues?

**Robertson:** I wanted to be in it because it is an important thing to be a part of and I someday will be an art therapist for women and children that have been in the sex trade.

**Michelle Barton:** I really felt like it was a good experience. My piece “Say It” made me feel vulnerable.

**Ost:** I perform each year because it gives women a chance to become impassioned about what makes them a woman and it shows them it’s okay to be so.

What was the reaction from your friends and family when they heard you would be in the play? How have they received it since?

**Ost:** My parents are conservative, but still support me from afar, especially since my mother is definitely a feminist, like me, who believes that there’s very little a woman can’t do. Since this is my third year, the shock has worn off a bit.

**Robertson:** My parents knew about the monologues. My father has even seen it. My mom has some issues with

some of the pieces, but knows it is important to me so she is ok.

**Leach:** My students have reacted variously over the years, with reactions ranging from “raised eyebrows: “Oh, really?” to “Wow, that’s cool!” My husband has gone to watch me every year since we’ve started dating and is really supportive, although he gets embarrassed if I wear my “Vagina Warriors” shirt in public.

**Ashley Nisley:** My family and friends were excited that I got in, but were confused with what it was about. I explained it to them, but they still thought it was semi-weird. My family didn’t make it to the show, but they are still happy for me. My friends that did see the show liked it and said it had a lot of funny parts.

**Jamie Hafeli:** “The Woman Loved to Make Vaginas Happy” was a more “out there” monologue. I was basically having an orgasm on stage and had to tell my friends I was doing this. They were like “Oh dear.” I invited my mom to watch my performance, she laughed so hard she thought it was great.

What was the most surprising thing about being in the monologues?

**Michelle Barton:** Seeing Jamie Hafeli’s monologue, it was shocking and a good

time.

**Ost:** For me, the most surprising thing was seeing how many guys came to the show. Some write the show off as being radically feminist, which it can be, and decide to not come, right then and there. The thing is, men can be just as impassioned about women’s rights as any woman. The number of guys that showed up over the weekend definitely proved that point to me.

**Robertson:** People calling me very crude names and I don’t understand why people are so freaked out.

**Leach:** Bonding with women half my age!

**Nisley:** How funny a lot of them are and how sad some of them are.

What was the most challenging thing about being in the monologues?

**Ost:** The monologues always pushes me out of my comfort zone. There is always a monologue that gets me to think outside the box. This year’s was “Say It,” about Japan’s “comfort women.”

What was the most rewarding thing about being in the monologues?

**Ost:** I’ve said it once, and I’ll say it again: watching other women become empowered and grow. It’s an amazing transformation.



photo by jared darke | senior photographer

JUNIOR JAMIE HAFELI performs her skit “The Woman Who Loved To Make Vaginas Happy” Sunday afternoon at the Wesley Center during “The Vagina Monologues.” The performance marked the third year of the Monologues performed by the ladies of Northwest’s student chapter of Amnesty International.

MOCK INTERVIEW



photo by jared darke | senior photographer

SENIOR TREVOR ARNOLD has his resume critiqued by Kevin Wibbels, Administrator of Human Resources for Lincoln Public Schools in Nebraska, during Mock Interview Day Wednesday morning in J.W. Jones Student Union sponsored by Career Services. Arnold had a mock interview with the Blue Springs R/V Public School District prior to his resume critique. Arnold is a K-12 physical education major and plans on student teaching in the fall after he graduates in May.

PROFILE

Alumna competes for national pageant title

By Kiley Swopes  
Chief Reporter

One full length white halter top evening gown. One black two piece swimsuit. One red shimmering knee length cocktail dress. Not to mention, knowledge about her platform and dedication. All these made a five-year challenge and a life-long dream come true.

Northwest Alumna Lacey Fitzgerald was named Miss Missouri 2008 after competing in pageants since age five.

To be a contestant in the Miss Missouri pageant, a person first has to win a local title. There are 29 local pageants in Missouri. To enter one of them a person must between the ages of 17 to 24 and must be a resident of Missouri or a full time college student of the state, Susan Atkins, Director of Missouri Pageants said.

Twenty-five to 35 women compete for a chance to represent Missouri in the Miss America pageant in Mexico, Mo. each year. Each contestant spends the week competing in the areas of personal interview, talent, swimwear, evening gown, onstage question and production, Fitzgerald said.

“It’s hard to say how many crowns I have won,” Fitzgerald said. “I have traveled across the United States with state and national titles and

have received many scholarships for each title.”

Miss Missouri is a full time job, keeping Fitzgerald on the road two to three times a week, Atkins said.

The job consists of speaking about Right Decisions/Right Now to Girl Scouts, 4-H, rotary clubs, women’s organizations and children’s hospitals, Fitzgerald said.

Winning Miss Missouri leads to a lot of preparation to compete for Miss America, Fitzgerald said. Board members set up mock interviews, a wardrobe consultant helps find the perfect outfits, and a lot of preliminary pageant directors help with last minute tasks.

Miss Missouri 1996, Kim Brinegar now volunteers as a wardrobe consultant that helps Miss Missouri winners choose their competition wardrobe for the Miss America competition.

A wardrobe allowance is given to Miss Missouri every year to help her pay for her outfits, Brinegar said.

Some of Miss Missouri’s wardrobe is sponsored to help reduce the cost on her and the family, Brinegar said.

“Lacey’s evening gown and talent costume are one-of-a-kind designs that Lacey was able to give input to our official designer, Sherri Hill,”

Brinegar said. “Lacey conveyed her thoughts and ideas to Sherri and from there, Sherri created sketches of Lacey’s evening gown and talent costume which would ultimately be what Lacey wore at Miss America.”

The Miss America Reality Series ran for four Fridays in January leading up to the Miss America Competition Jan. 24, Fitzgerald said.

All 52 contestants were housed for 20 days on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, Calif. for the chance to win the TV show’s prize, a gold sash, Fitzgerald said.

“Miss America is the Super Bowl of pageants. It was a thrill to be in Vegas and compete on the stage I’d dreamed of since I was a little girl,” Fitzgerald said. “The people I met, the competition and the opportunity is something I will never forget. It was amazing to just be there, representing my state and I left with no regrets.”

Fitzgerald’s ultimate goal has been achieved, and she will not compete again for the title of Miss Missouri.

“I learned to be a competitive person and not to give up on what I wanted,” Fitzgerald said. “If I wanted something bad enough, I would learn what I needed to do, practice more, and be more confident in how I would achieve it.”



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HOMEcoming EXECUTIVE BOARD

HOMEcoming Co-CHAIR  
applications due March 5th

HOMEcoming COMMITTEE  
applications due March 8th

The first Homecoming meeting will be March 1st in the Union Boardroom. Every organization should bring two representatives to vote on by-law changes.

Applications are available at the Office of Campus Activities or on the Homecoming website.

Turn in applications at the first Homecoming meeting or at the Office of Campus Activities.

Any Questions. Please e-mail us at homecoming.nwmissouri.edu



FUNDRAISER



WILLIAM PHILLIPS SHOVELS down a piece of chocolate cake. The First Presbyterian Church held its annual Chocolate Festival on Saturday afternoon.

Church offers sweet time

By Brian Johnson  
Entertainment Reporter

The Presbyterian Church was a hot spot, or rather a sweet spot to be in Maryville last Saturday. The fourth annual Chocolate Festival took place on Valentine’s Day. As soon as the doors opened at noon, families and individual shoppers rushed in with smiles on their faces. Connie Fuller, a cashier, said that they prepared for a busy day. “It’s a brace-yourself moment,” Fuller said. “We’re shooting for 20 minutes when the chocolate covered cherries will be sold out.” The chocolate covered cherries, indeed, sold out within minutes last year. The church made 100 dozen cherries this year, twice as many as last year. “This was the first year that we got the chocolate covered cherries,” said Lisa Macali, a customer who bought a box full of chocolate items. “We can’t pass chocolate up.” The extra chocolate-covered cherries proved to be a good idea. They didn’t sell out this year and everyone who wanted some were able to get them. The festival is held every year

to raise money for Shepherd’s Kitchen, an organization that feeds the needy of Maryville. Nearly every item had something to do with chocolate. There was chocolate dip, chocolate-covered pretzels and even chocolate coffee. The only item that didn’t have chocolate was raspberry tea. A slight change was made this year when it came to peanut butter items. “We didn’t have any items that contain peanut butter,” Fuller said. “We did it as a precaution and simply decided to make more of everything else.” People came out of the church carrying boxes and bags of chocolate items and many sat down at the church to feast on their treats. Macali said that while she bought a lot of items, they really won’t last long at home. “Yeah, this chocolate will probably only last until tomorrow,” Macali said with a laugh. Chairwoman Nancy Lee Poole didn’t know how much money was made, but she believes that this year’s festival was as successful as last year’s. “I’m very pleased with how this event turned out,” Poole said.

LOCAL BUSINESS



STORE MANAGER BEN Conway listens in as his store gets critiqued by Hy-Vee management. Conway has been the Hy-Vee store manager since January.

New Hy-Vee manager settling in

By Greg Miller  
Missourian Reporter

Ben Conway spent his Tuesday afternoon in meetings and showing the store to others within the Hy-Vee organization. It’s daunting enough for anyone to show a boss through the produce aisle of their grocery store, and even more daunting when you’re still new to the job. “I’ve been here for one month,” Conway said. He has been the store director for the Maryville Hy-Vee since January and has worked with the national chain since he was 15 years old. “I worked at Hy-Vee throughout high school and college,” said Conway. “In my second year of college, I decided to make it my career.” His last position was as the assistant director of a Hy-Vee in Sioux Falls, Iowa. Conway is a native of Jackson, which he describes as a small town in Nebraska. He admits he didn’t know much about the Maryville community before moving. He was told Maryville was a small community that was very tight-knit, something he says he keeps in mind as the store director.

The selection process was somewhat extensive, with a selection committee involving a staff of multiple executives. “My supervisors wanted employee relations to be a priority,” Conway said. “My number one priority is customer service and friendliness.” And some changes are already in place. No more are the large merchandise racks immediately at the store entrance. “I wanted to open up the store ... make people feel welcome,” Conway said. He also pointed out the store’s Nu-Val nutritional identification system, which is in place at the store now. “It condenses the large charts in the back of food items into a point system from zero to 100,” he said. Conway stresses the importance of the store’s relationship with one of Maryville’s biggest economic machines, Northwest Missouri State University. “I want to personally improve the relationship with the college,” Conway said. He added he knows the relationship is already strong, but wants to improve it even further. “I really look forward to it,” he said.

DOWNTOWN

Kickoff meeting gives downtown a reason to DREAM

By Kenny Larabee  
Community News Editor

The next step in the DREAM Initiative took place last night. A building design kickoff meeting was held last night at the Maryville Public Library, giving downtown business owners and residents a chance to learn what advice experts had to give to improve Maryville’s downtown. Mike Hemmer, senior project manager with Peckham Guyton Albers & Viets, Inc. (PGAV) — the

consulting firm helping the city with the project — gave a presentation to local business owners. In August 2007, Missouri Governor Matt Blunt named Maryville a DREAM community inductee, one of 10 communities to receive the award. DREAM, which stands for Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri, was a program Blunt established to help improve the downtowns of small and medium-sized communities in the state, according to information from the city’s Web site at [Maryville.gov/office2.com](http://Maryville.gov/office2.com). An organizational review, surveys and design guidelines are some of the services Hemmer said his firm would offer the city through the program. Creating new jobs, preserving historic buildings, bringing more foot traffic to downtown and beautifying downtown areas are some goals of the initiative’s plan. Maryville City Manager Matt LeCerf, along with Executive Assistant Abbie Renshaw, is helping to facilitate the project.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI CELLULAR

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**How much can I save on my phone bill?**  
NWMC offers two Lifeline Plan options, a \$17.95 plan and \$21.95 plan. You will save up to \$8.25 on either of these selected plans.

**How do I know if I'm eligible?**  
You're eligible for Lifeline if you participate in any of the following programs:

1. Medicaid
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4. Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
5. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
6. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
7. National School Lunch free lunch program
8. Veteran Administration Disability Benefits, State Blind Pension, State Aid to Blind Persons, Federal Social Security Disability, or State Supplemental Payments (only those who are totally and permanently disabled or blind)

**Are there any restrictions?**  
Lifeline can only be used for one telephone per household—either wireless or wireline.

**How do I apply?**  
Applications are available at social services offices, Northwest Missouri Cellular's main office, all agent locations or online at [www.nwmccl.com](http://www.nwmccl.com). You may also contact us at (800) 331-6341.

**Other Information:**  
Discounts may be available on select handsets. Please see retail office for more information.

**How do I continue to receive Lifeline benefits?**  
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**How much will I save by using Link-Up?**  
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**How do I know if I am eligible?**  
If you qualify for Lifeline, you also qualify for Link-Up

**Does Link-Up have any restrictions?**  
You must provide proof of eligibility before the service can be activated. The Link Up discount cannot be applied to activation charges you incurred before you applied for the program.

**How do I apply for Link-Up?**  
To apply for Link-Up you will follow the same application process as Lifeline and the same proof of eligibility as Lifeline.

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OUR VIEW

Other MoHELA projects shouldn't be forgotten

With construction nearing completion, two tenants waiting to move in and a fast approaching April opening, the last thing the Center of Innovation and Entrepreneurship needed was a funding suspension.

Fortunately, that's not going to happen – at least not to Northwest.

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon (D) late last week announced his administration had finished reviewing the status of 30 state college and university construction projects currently funded by former Gov. Matt Blunt's \$350 million Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative.

The 2007 initiative called on the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MoHELA) to fund these projects by selling off its student loan portfolio and was supposed to help establish Missouri as one of the nation's top states for cutting-edge science and research.

For the first couple hundred million dollars in payments or so, that seemed to be the case.

But now the program, and a handful of projects under it, faces an indefinite funding hiatus. MoHELA has only about \$118 million left for the initiative, which leaves the program about \$107 million

underfunded.

Twelve construction projects, located at Missouri State University, Southeast Missouri State University and throughout the University of Missouri system, won't receive any money until MoHELA, or really anybody, finds some to give them.

Northwest's CIE joins 17 other projects that were given the green light to jump in on the remaining \$118 million, primarily because construction is so far along that pulling funding would be devastating.

But just because we're in the clear doesn't mean we should forget about the projects on hold

in the MoHELA mess. These universities may not have broken ground yet, but the projects were on the original list.

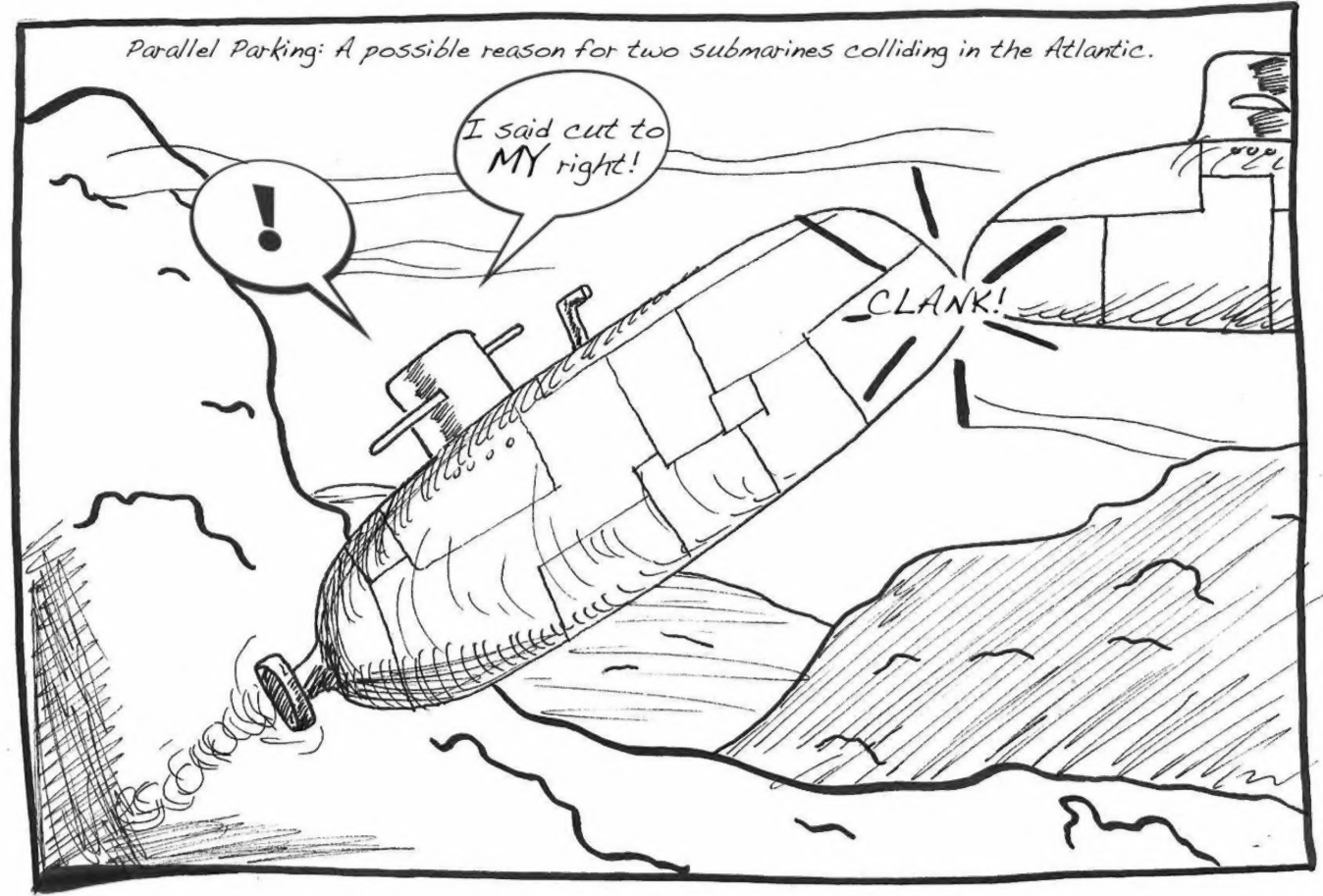
Blunt's initiative was controversial, to say the least. Nixon himself was vehemently opposed to using student loan dollars to construct buildings. But like it or not, the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative passed the General Assembly, and it really should be carried out in full if at all possible.

Some state officials hope to use what state money is available to fund these remaining projects, offsetting that spending with some of the \$4 billion

expected to come to Missouri from the federal stimulus package.

It's definitely an option to consider. The Northwest Missourian believes officials at this University should step up to the plate for the suspended projects and their respective schools. Tell state lawmakers to not put this situation on the backburner and do everything they can to find the remaining \$107 million.

It would be nice for the CIE and the other fully funded construction projects to be known as winners in this initiative's saga, rather than facilities that luckily made it out alive.



MY VIEW

Government should consider legalizing medicinal marijuana

Why can't we smoke dope ... when we are sick?

In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Gonzales v. Raich* 545 U.S. 1 (2005) that the federal government may ban the use of marijuana, even for medical purposes, under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution (a.k.a. the Commerce Clause) which allows the federal government to "regulate Commerce...among the several States."

The bench used the Commerce Clause to say that the marijuana trade (even though illegal) is just that – trade. Therefore, Congress can pass laws that regulate the use and control of marijuana.

Since that decision, the advocacy for the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes has been somewhat quiet. That is until late.

In the small town of Cliff Village, Mo. (on the outskirts of Joplin), Mayor Joe Blundell proposed a city ordinance allowing the use of medicinal marijuana. He

himself was hit by a train eight years ago and uses the drug to relieve the pain of the screws and brackets that have been drilled into his spine.

According to the Joplin Globe, that proposal was passed just two weeks ago.

The significance of *Raich* is that now federal officials can raid Blundell's home if he is using the drug, regardless of the new ordinance that has been passed in Cliff Village.

The real question we should ask ourselves is what is the harm in smoking marijuana for medicinal purposes?

I am sure there will be some people out there that would take advantage of the situation and try to "score" some dope for recreational purposes if it were legalized, but doesn't that already happen with prescription drugs today?

In the aforementioned *Gonzales v. Raich*, the woman in question, Angel Raich, suffered from life-threatening illnesses and allergies, which prevented her from taking prescription drugs. Since her options had been severely limited, Raich relied upon medicinal marijuana to ease her pain.

Most of the cases that I have heard of that deal with medicinal marijuana involve debilitating illnesses and/or elderly patients that use the drug because of its lack of side effects as well as non-habit forming traits.

I am not too worried that ol' grandma is in risk of becoming a drug addict or will start playing video games all day. Nor am I worried that she will eat a half-dozen frozen burritos using Doritos as some sort of spoon just because she smokes a few "jazz" cigarettes to ease her chronic back problems or



Jake Taylor  
Contributing Columnist

MY VIEW

Senate can better serve campus with student input

As Northwest students, we are blessed with many opportunities. Each student receives a laptop computer, free admission to athletic events, pizza orders off the student meal plan, supportive faculty who make an effort to know students by name as well as other educational and social experiences.



Abby Freeman  
Student Senate President

As Student Senate President of such an institution, one may have thought this job should be easy; however, it is quite the opposite. Having been a member of Student Senate for most of my collegiate career, I have gained an understanding of the level of difficulty representing a body of 7,000 students can be. There are issues that may go unnoticed or groups that feel underrepresented. This area is a continual chance for improvement, but the members of Senate strive to consider every student when making decisions.

Student Senate has attempted to reach out to University students through a variety of methods such as the QUIP Days for collecting comments, hosting a Back to School Bash, Student Appreciation Day \ and first meeting of the month drawings where every member present from an organization is entered to win \$50.

Student Senate is currently working to add more methods of communication and involvement to the campus through creation of student surveys and a monthly newsletter, but the overall goal of student representation is still incomplete.

Despite all efforts, in order to be an effective Senate and to better represent the University, one item is still needed: voices, voices from each of Northwest's students. You each have them and we want you to use them. As senators and executive board members of Student Senate, we are elected to work for each of you, and each of you can make a difference in the work done on campus.

In Student Senate, senators are given weekly challenges. These are challenges to push themselves to become better senators and better delegates of the student body. This week the challenge is given to every student at Northwest. I challenge each of you to use your voice. Speak to a senator about the issues you see at Northwest, attend a weekly Senate meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Boardroom, send an email to ssenate@nwmissouri.edu, or for those willing, apply to become an associate member of Student Senate. This is your chance to take a moment and improve our university.

Student Senate will strive to seek student input, but true representation can only be accomplished when efforts from students and the Senate are combined. Senate is working to reach out to you and now we ask that you reach out to Senate. This is your challenge; I hope you are willing to accept it.

CAMPUS TALK

What is your favorite movie of all time and why?



Probably "The Dark Knight" because since I was about four Batman has been one of my favorite things ever.



The movie "Gidget" because it's a funny movie, it's an older movie and I named my puppy after it.



"Big Fish" because, despite being lighter than many of Tim Burton's other films, it nonetheless showcases his genius as a filmmaker and is perhaps his greatest work.



Any Disney classic because come on, it's a classic.



"Requiem for a Dream" because it has cool cinematography and it's kind of a depressing movie.

Kevin Batton

Ashley Brown

Jeston Dulin

Alyssa Knorr

Jeremiah Benson



PUBLIC SAFETY

Feb. 3	w. South Ave. and U.S. Business Highway 71	City, Mo., at the intersection of W. 7 <sup>th</sup> and N. Buchanan.
Derric R. O'Dell, 20, Maryville, barking/ vicious dog, 700 block E. Fifth	Feb. 11	Carolyn M. Meyer, 58, Conception Junction, Mo., collided with Shauntia Schweigart, 19, Omaha, Ne., at the intersection of U.S. Business Highway 71 and W. Halsey.
Feb. 4	Larceny, 1500 block S. Munn, ongoing investigation	Bennet C. Kwan, 78, Maryville, collided with James Whitaker, 50, Burlington Junction, Mo., at the intersection of U.S. Business Highway 71 and W. South Hills Drive
Larceny, 1600 block S. Main, ongoing investigation	Failure to obey stop, 900 block N. Mulberry, ongoing investigation	Jared M. McMahon, 20, Maryville, collided with Jan R. Tramel, 60, Maryville, at the intersection of E. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. and N. Vine St.
Feb. 6	Feb. 12	Feb. 14
Marciyanna J.A. Nielson, 18, Maryville, wanted on warrant — failure to appear, 400 block N. Market	Adam L. Hunt, 18, Maryville, driving while intoxicated, minor in possession, careless and imprudent driving, driving without a valid driver's license, 600 block N. Depot	Property damage, 600 block E. Seventh, ongoing investigation
Feb. 8	Burglary, 1500 block S. Munn, ongoing investigation	Timothy M. Whelan, 25, Maryville, involved in an accident at U.S. Business Highway 71 and E. Halsey.
Property damage, 100 block E. Third, ongoing investigation	Disorderly conduct, 400 block N. Buchanan, ongoing investigation	Feb. 15
Careless and imprudent driving, 100 block E. First, ongoing investigation	Philip M. Whitney, 25, Maryville, failure to obey school bus stop, 600 block W. Torrance	Connor J. Dignan, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, disorderly conduct, 400 block W. Seventh
Feb. 9	Marc A. Hawkins, 23, Maryville, cited with failure to yield, collided with Jeffery L. Klunkel, 45, Maryville at the intersection of E. Second and N. Market.	Larceny, 500 block W. Ninth, ongoing investigation
Lost/stolen license plate, 500 block N. Buchanan, ongoing investigation	Allen Z. Kieth, 18, Maryville, cited with careless and imprudent driving, collided with Allyson R. Abbot, 20, of Maryville, at the intersection of U.S. Business Highway 71 and W. 11 <sup>th</sup> St.	Kaela D. McClurg, 18, Maryville, larceny, 1600 block S. Main
Property damage, 300 E. Third, ongoing investigation	Feb. 13	Kevin M. Harpenau, 20, Maryville, cited with failure to stop, collided with Marjory F. Barratt, 82, Maryville, at the intersection of N. Mulberry and W. 1 <sup>st</sup> St.
Hit and run, 1000 block N. Country Club Road, ongoing investigation	Shauna C. Walters, 20, Maryville, making a false police report, minor in possession, 300 block, E. Sixth	Feb. 16
Kenneth E. Sticken, 46, Maryville, collided with Azira D.H. Goodwin, 51, Maryville, at the 1600 block of S. Main.	Larceny from motor vehicle, 600 block W. First, ongoing investigation	Evelyn L. Hansen, 70, Sheridan, Mo., cited with failure to stop, collided with Brittney D. Wagner, 19, Maryville, at the intersection of W. 7 <sup>th</sup> St. and N. Mulberry.
Feb. 10	Hit and run, 800 block S. Main, ongoing investigation	Adam L. Maher, 21, Maryville, cited with failure to yield right-of-way, collided with Dawn C. O'Dell, 20, Maryville, at the intersection N. Walnut and W. 9 <sup>th</sup> St.
Recovered Property, 100 Block N. Vine, Property : CD case	Jordan Assel, 21, Cameron, Mo., collided with Colt Ridge, 21, Grant	
Careless and imprudent driving, 3000 block E. First, ongoing investigation		
Fire report, 200 block W. Second, unattended fire		
Stephen R. Sybert, 45, Maryville, cited with failure to yield, collided with Deborah a. Erickson, 42, Maryville, at the intersection of		

# DOGS: Returned animals a problem for Humane Society

Continued from **A1**

A total of 48 people released or returned their animals and 20 were dumped.

The adoption requirements for a dog or cat consist of questions regarding financial stability, living and yard conditions and other pets or children, Murphy said.

"We have no way of doing a background check so once we receive the application we have to use the honesty system and trust an animal is going to a good home," Murphy said.

While trying to keep around 60 of each animal, the shelter currently has 79 dogs and 75 cats. One hundred is the maximum number for both dogs and cats, Nelson said.

The economy is playing a factor on the owners being able to care for their pets, Murphy said.

"Pets are an extra expense," Murphy said. "Many people are seeing pets as a utility or thing instead of an animal or part of the family."

To start with a pet an average of \$300 is spent in the first month of adoption with adoption fees, food, bowls, gates/pins and monthly appointments, Murphy said.

"Last year the Humane Society earned \$142,814.90; however, our expenses including wages were \$148,813.57 making us lose almost \$6,000," Nelson said.

Unlike dogs, cats can live better in the wild as long as they have their claws. The Humane Society often picks up stray cats and spays or neuters them and then releases them back into the wild, Murphy said.

Animal rescue is taking 21 cats to two different locations. Two weeks from now 25 dogs will also be released. They will go to Illinois and Wisconsin, Nelson said.

"Make sure you adopt a pet when you are ready and willing to give it a forever home," Nelson said. "Bring it to the Humane Society if it is your last resort, but try to find a home that way you can see it is going to a good owner."

# SMOKING: Final phase concentrates on new policies

Continued from **A1**

also contact their legislatures about the program.

The Smokebusters program is designed to help educate people on the dangers of second hand smoke.

"There is a three-year program and we are in phase one right now," Frueh said.

"We recruited 10 schools and they recruited anywhere from five to 10 students in the grades eight to 10. These students will then help educate their peers on the dangers of tobacco use."

The program focuses on other forms of tobacco use, not just cigarettes.

"One school is looking at making their local park smoke-free, and another school is looking at making all sporting events smoke-free wherein the adults can't smoke before they come into the building," Frueh said.

"What these schools need to do is go back and identify a need."

The 10 schools involved are Fairfax High School, Gilman City High School, Jefferson High School, Maryville High School, Maryville Middle School, Nodaway Holt High School, North Nodaway High School, Rockport High School, Tarkio High School and West Nodaway High School.

Maryville Middle School Assistant Principal Shelby Scarbrough believes the Smokebusters program is a very efficient way to get important information to the community. The Maryville Middle School has done many assemblies to get the information to their students.

"Our students have done programs like Knockout Tobacco Use," Scarbrough said. "This was a game of knockout during an assembly, and then the students trained talked about tobacco use to all the eighth grade classes."

The students chosen by the Maryville Middle School chose their student council to attend the training to help strengthen their leadership skills, Scarbrough said.

"We believe it is easier for students to receive this information from their peers rather than from adults," she said.

The next two stages of the Smokebusters Program are to contact the media and educate students on how to contact the local media. The third step in the program is the implementation of the new policies in the school's areas.

The University received \$50,000 because of the Community Tobacco Cessation Coalition in the area. The University was asked by the University of Missouri-Columbia to participate in the program, Frueh said.

"This \$50,000 is part of the \$1.5 million state legislatures set aside for tobacco education," she said. "Our hope is the legislatures will give us the same amount of money so we can continue educating people in the community on tobacco use."

The program will end in May if the grant is not renewed or the University does not fund the program, she said.

Wellness Center graduate assistants, Callie Poore and Casey Arney, helped with two of the three training sessions held last trimester. The student organization Cats Advocating Smoke-Free Environments (CASE) works closely with the Smokebusters program, but the two programs are funded separately, Frueh said.

Information on tobacco use is something that students need to know, Scarbrough said.

"Secondhand smoke is something that cannot be communicated enough to students," Scarbrough said. "We will continue to educate our students on this because it would be the responsible thing to do."

OBITUARIES

Marie Josephine Funderburk

Marie Josephine funderbunk, 92, Maryville, died Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009, at St Francis Hospital in Maryville.

She was born Jan. 9, 1917, in Clyde, Mo. to Pete and Agatha (Wolfer) Meyer.

She married George P. Funderburk on Feb. 21, 1939, in Conception, Mo.

Marie was a retired cook for St. Francis Hospital, Maryville. She was a Roman Catholic and a member of St. Gregory's Parish, Maryville. Marie always enjoyed

playing cards.

She was preceded in death by her husband George Funderburk (Aug. 16, 1981), granddaughter Denise (Sullivan) Mansil, grandson Todd Sullivan, daughter-in-law Cathy Funderburk, brother Paul Meyer, sisters: Katherine Nielson and Frances Nielson.

She is survived by one son Donald Funderburk, La Vista, Neb., two daughters: Ruth Sullivan and husband Bob, Gladstone, Missouri, Rose Mary Funderburk, Maryville, three grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, brother Ernest Meyer, Saint Joseph, Missouri, two sisters: Dorothy

Wilmes, Rea,

Missouri and Millie Meyer, Maryville and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Monday, Feb. 16 at Price Funeral Home Chapel, Maryville. It was followed by a Parish Rosary.

Mass of Christian Burial was Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009, at St. Gregory Barbarigo Catholic Church, Maryville.

Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery Maryville, Missouri.

Memorials may be directed to St. Gregory's Catholic Church, 333 South Davis, Maryville, MO 64468

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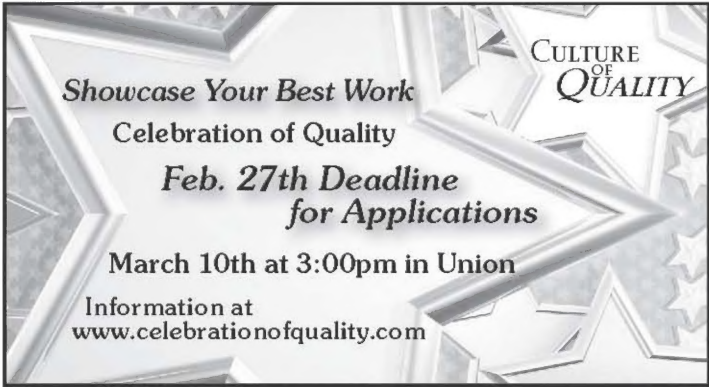
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# EVERLASTING EQUALITY

## Activist answers questions on Dr. King, desegregation

By Elizabeth Sexton  
*Missourian Reporter*

True or False: Students have more power than the Supreme Court.

According to civil rights champion Dr. Norman Shands, it's true and it's cheaper.

In honor of Black History Month, Shands, a retired Southern Baptist minister, addressed the campus Feb. 12, speaking of tremendous changes created by non-violent civil disobedience, including examples of student protests at lunch counters.

Shands gave eyewitness testimony from his experiences at the center of the civil rights movement and answered questions about his non-violent fight for racial equality.

**What was your experience in the civil rights movement?**

Shands: It boils down to, I was just trying to be a good person, but saying to people what they wanted to hear wasn't always being a good person. I became convinced that anyone who had faith in Christ was my brother or sister. I had responsibilities to act like that, so I preached it to my people.

**What was your involvement in the desegregation of Georgia's schools?**

Shands: The social service commission I was serving on made a report to the Georgia Baptist convention that simply called on pastors wherever they served in the state to support the decision of the Supreme Court and to create a climate in the community where the situation could be acclimated.

**What was the most challenging experience you faced?**

Shands: I think my wife took more of the brunt than I did. She would have calls on the telephone and the person would ask to speak to me.

She'd say, 'He's not at home,'

'Well of course he's not at home,' they would say, 'he's out with that black woman he has been seeing.'

**Were there times when you, or your family, were concerned about your safety?**

Shands: No. We suspected when a car would go slowly by our house they had bad inten-



NORMAN SHANDS TALKS of his first-hand involvement in the civil rights movement. Shands spoke and shared time with students and other attendees in honor of Black History Month on Feb. 12.

tions. But we never got any expression of it. We wouldn't hang around the front window when that would happen, you know.

**You mentioned that students come to college with a learned faith, influenced by their parents and then leave with their own discovered faith. What was your personal experience with this?**

Shands: My universe expanded tremendously

when I entered college and it wasn't always easy to harmonize what you learned in Sunday school with what you're learning in college. So I developed a technique of starting at the cross. I knew what happened on the cross and working out what happened from there and it worked.

I used to talk to my students who were going away to college about letting their faith grow with their understanding of the world - that they were

going to meet some things that would test their faith and that was alright, that was the way it was supposed to be.

Later, some of them expressed appreciation for just an attitude that was expressed. I had a letter from one student who found my position on college inspiring to her. She was having problems adjusting her faith and she talked to her pastor.

He said, 'Well the answer is simple, you just hold on to the faith you learn in Sunday school' Well, it isn't that simple.

**How did your parents influence your beliefs?**

Shands: My father died before I got involved in all this he was a full going segregationist. He felt responsible as a business man to support the system - and so part of my beginning of this struggle was his attitude.

My mother always supported everything I did as a minister. She had an experience the day I was born that she didn't tell me about until I was over 70 years old about praying that God would use me.

**What can you say about using non-violence to make a change?**

Shands: Well, I believe in non-violence and that was the key of Dr. King's effort. There were pressures in the black community to use violence to get faster results. He never yielded to that at all.

General McCarthy is often quoted in his talk that he made on the Battleship Missouri when they signed the end of the war.

He said, 'The answer to all the problems are theological.'

For a military man to say that is tremendous to me. And I think he is right. It's slow work and you don't make rapid progress. But everyone has a contribution to make if they are willing to make it.

**What were you doing when you found out Dr. King had been assassinated?**

Shands: I was pastor at Calvary Baptist Church at that time. Of course there was violent reaction in that community.

**Is that fight for civil rights over?**

Shands: It's still generational. It changes emphasis with different generations, but the battle has to continue.

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NW WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

FRESHMEN GUARD ABBY Henry waits for the play to develop during the first half of the Bearcats' win over Truman. Henry hit the game winning free-throw with one second left on the clock.



photo by seih cook  
photography editor

Last second free-throw gives 'Cats much needed win

By Brian Bosiljevac  
University Sports Editor

A wild finish Wednesday has the Northwest women's basketball team one game out of the eighth place in the MIAA.

With the game tied and 11 seconds on the clock, Truman's Laura Joya missed a jumper. Northwest's Micaela Uriell brought down the rebound passing it off to senior Meghan Brue. Brue saw the Bearcats had numbers as Jessica Burton took off down the floor in transition. Burton received the ball from Brue with a wide-open lane to the basket when the referee's whistle blew. The ref signaled timeout for Northwest.

Head coach Gene Steinmeyer

jumped from his seat, asking who called the timeout. The ref claimed Brue called the timeout with six seconds remaining on the clock. However, Brue was too busy passing the ball to her wide-open teammate to even think timeout.

They took the phantom timeout to discuss a last second play. Northwest in-bounded the ball and drove down court as freshman Abby Henry cut to the hoop. She drew a foul with 1.4 seconds on the clock. She hit the first free throw putting Northwest on top 67-66. This time Steinmeyer did call a timeout, telling Henry to purposely miss the second shot. She threw a bullet off the rim as Truman rebounded the ball and the final second slipped off the clock.

"I know she (Brue) didn't call that timeout," Steinmeyer said. "I had just got done telling the girls, if they make the shot then call a timeout. If they miss it look to push the ball down court in transition and if we have to I'll call a timeout. So, I know they didn't call a timeout. I think the ref anticipated us calling a timeout, that's why they were just standing there and we had numbers down the court."

The 'Cats' senior Burton was big part of the 'Cats' eighth victory of season. She led the team with 29 points. She finished the night nine-of-11 from the floor, three-for-three from behind the arc and a perfect eight-of-eight from the free throw line.

"I was a little worried in pre-game," Burton said. "I was missing a lot of shots, then I came out in the game, hit that first one and it just kept going from there."

Truman and Northwest entered the game as the two bottom teams in the MIAA. The game featured a back and forth battle that saw eight lead changes. With the Northwest win and help from a Southwest Baptist loss, the 'Cats are now tied with Baptist for ninth in the conference and both teams are just one game behind Missouri Western and that coveted eighth place.

Eight out of 11 doesn't sound so hot, but that eighth place represents the final ticket to the MIAA tournament in Kansas City, Mo.

TRACK AND FIELD

Track team looking forward after accident

By Jason Lawrence  
Asst. Sports Editor

Things did not go as planned this past weekend for the Northwest track and field team at Wayne State College. One of three vans carrying the team slid over an embankment and rolled three times en route to the meet in Nebraska.

Coach Scott Lorek was driving the van when the accident occurred on county road J64, four miles east of Hamburg, Iowa, and about an hour northeast of Maryville.

"Obviously it was snowy and we were going slow," Lorek said. "Somehow I caught a rear wheel on something and we slid sideways. We went over down the embankment and rolled. When we came to, on our wheels, I looked around and everyone was still there. We were all OK, I'm just extremely thankful. Even the state trooper said he'd never seen anything like it."

Nine people were in the van when it slid over the embankment, including sophomore thrower Kate Walter.

"I thought we would catch on the edge of the ditch, but we just went right over it," Walter said. "I don't know how everyone walked away with nothing."

Cole Tackett of the Fremont County Sheriff's Department told University officials that the occupants of the van were transported to the Grape Community Hospital in Hamburg for treatment of minor injuries. Walter said she sustained small cuts on her back and has an incision under her knee.

The Bearcats didn't compete in any events last Saturday, but Lorek doesn't think it will hurt his team very much.

"I don't think it will have any effects on the team, but from a coaching standpoint, there were some things we wanted to do," Lorek said. "Obviously, we lost that opportunity, so that puts us into a little bit of a bind to sort some things out without having another meet we were counting on. Overall, it's not a huge issue."

This Friday, Northwest travels to Warrensburg, Mo. They will compete in the University of Central Missouri Classic at 11 a.m. Freshman pole-vaulter Kevin Hays, who was also in the van last Saturday, expects the team to do well despite the accident.

"I'm still a little sore, but by this weekend I believe I will be in good shape to compete," Hays said. "I expect the team and myself to do well this weekend. A couple of people have already set personal records down there so I can only hope that continues this weekend."

At the UCM Relays three weeks ago, 14 men set personal records. Three members of the team improved their NCAA provisional qualifying marks and Tyler Shaw broke the school record in the 60-meter hurdles. In addition, 11 women improved their personal best and Hannah Henry broke the program record in the 60-meter hurdles.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | NATIONALLY TELEVISED GAME

Basketball team tunes in for Central game

By Christopher Woodland  
Sports Editor

The Northwest basketball team will participate in a milestone event for the pro - gram this Saturday.

The impact may linger for years to come.

For the first time in school history, a Northwest basketball team will play in a televised game when they travel to Warrensburg to take on Central Missouri.

"It's pretty exciting," guard Mike Larsen said. "You don't get that many opportunities in a lifetime to be on TV and be able to compete at a high level, and have a lot of people be able to watch it. I'm pretty excited."

The game will air on CBS College Sports Network, formerly known as CSTV (College Sports Television). Some cable providers may not provide the channel, but Dish Network and Direct TV do offer the channel as part of their service.

For those unable to watch the game from their home, local sports bars like Carson's Sports Grille will have access to the channel, Northwest Athletics Director Bob Boerigter said.

The game comes as part of a packaged deal created in an agreement between the Council of Presidents of Division II and CBS. The council purchased 10 nationally televised games per year. Football took four of those slots, while the remaining six are divided between men's and women's basketball games, Boerigter said.

This is the second year in a row that the channel has featured an MIAA basketball game. CBS College Sports Network aired an Emporia State vs. Washburn women's game last year.

Central Missouri received the opportunity for a televised game this season with its choice of opponent

and the result is the Bearcats playing on national television.

"One of the reasons is that it's been a really good game every time we play them, and obviously we have a really good draw on the road," Boerigter said. "Certainly they'd like to display a very enthusiastic environment and so we're hoping that not only will our fans watch the game on television, but that a number will elect to go to the game and be part of the national audience."

Northwest football coach Mel Tjeerdsma can testify to the benefits of national TV exposure. His football teams have played in eight nationally televised games over the past four years.

"Kids identify with it," Tjeerdsma said. "There's something about national television that makes it a special deal. With most of the kids that we've recruited the last few years, that's been one of the factors. They've said

See 'CATS on B2

NW BASEBALL

Leading off on the right foot, baseball starts 4-1

By Ian Myers  
Missourian Reporter

The Northwest baseball team is off to a 3-1 start after kicking off the 2009 regular season schedule on last Sunday in Russellville, Ark.

The Bearcats split a quick double-header series against Indianapolis behind a strong pitching performance by the top end of the pitching rotation.

"Our pitching staff has kept us in the game so far and has given us a shot to win," head coach Darin Loe. "Bret Harvel and Bill Disselhoff have thrown really well, and our bullpen has thrown well."

The squad ran over Arkansas Tech in a double-header that saw the 'Cats offense come alive, scoring 15 runs in the two seven inning affairs.

The Bearcats provided the season in somewhat tedious form, kicking off play on an eight-day road trip through Arkansas. Northwest won't see its first home game until March, 4, due to the chance of game threatening weather, so the 'Cats must endure 12 games in four different cities before ever stepping foot on their home turf.

"It's no fun playing on the road when the other team has the last at-bat, but, it's something that we've got to go through being a Northern school play-

ing baseball," Loe said. "We always go south through February. We know it's a gamble [trying to play games at home early in the season] because we always have snow on the ground."

Despite kicking off the season on the longest road trip of the year, there have been several bright spots for the 'Cats to build upon heading into the Spring months.

Offensively, the team has performed well, scoring 20 runs in only four games. Junior Catcher Creed Kurtz has helped in the offensive onslaught, hitting .214 with a lone home run and two RBIs to go along with it. Kurtz has also managed to capitalize on his time on the base paths

as well, scoring four runs and leading the team in that offensive category heading into yesterday's game against Henderson State.

Also swinging a hot stick has been freshman first baseman/outfielder John Hermesen, who has made the most of his limited at-bats despite carrying a .125 average into yesterday's Henderson State match-up. Hermesen has driven in four runs while crossing the plate three times. The top offensive showcase, however, has been junior outfielder Tim Beck.

Beck has managed to secure a hit in seven of his

See BASEBALL on B2



SOFTBALL

PITCHER NICOLE ACKELSON practices in Lamkin Activity Center for the Bearcat's next game. The 'Cats travel to the Southeastern Oklahoma State Tournament Feb. 20-22 in Durant, Okla.

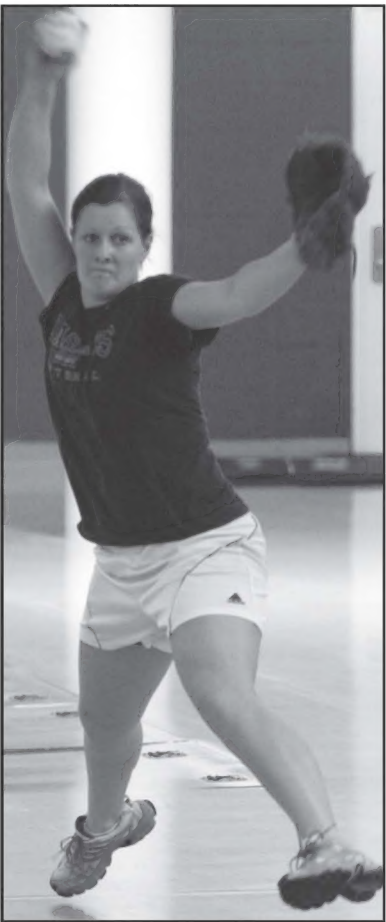


photo by dustin sander community sports editor

Injuries hamper opening weekend

By A.J. Martin
Missourian Reporter

Friday the 13th proved to be an unlucky day for the Bearcats as they dropped two games to Central Oklahoma last weekend. Northwest fell by scores of 2-8 in the first game and 4-5 in the second match-up. However, the team bounced back on Valentine's Day to split games with East Central Oklahoma with the 'Cats winning the first game 3-2 and losing the second game 7-15. Although the 'Cats lost three of the four games coach Ryan Anderson is still very optimistic about the rest of the season. "Overall, I felt like we played very well, we were hitting great when we didn't have runners in scoring position, but when we did have runners on

second and third, we didn't capitalize which ultimately hurt us in the end," Anderson said. Injuries have plagued the Lady 'Cats as they are without four of their key players, most recent of which was sophomore pitcher Kelsey Resa who is out with an ankle injury. "We are a pretty young team and we are struggling to stay healthy, once our younger girls get more game-time experience and our injured players get back, I don't see why we won't be right there in the mix of things," Anderson said. There were still a few bright spots to the Bearcats play with seniors Casey Carper and Tiffany Carter and sophomore Erin Leslie turning in strong performances over the weekend. Carper started off the season doing big things at the

plate, totaling 10 hits in only 15 at bats, with one double and one RBI. Carper was brought home four times by the power hitting of Leslie and Carter both of which combined for 3 home runs, as well as 10 RBIs. "I think coach hit it on the head pretty much about our play," Leslie said. "I think we were pretty nervous in the first couple games, but once we settled down and started playing the game we are capable of we started performing better." Despite the injuries and lack of experience, Leslie feels they are moving forward as a team. "We have a lot of potential, it's just about getting that potential to show on the field, and we are working hard day in and day out to translate that play onto the field." The 'Cats square of this weekend at the Southeastern Oklahoma Tournament.

MEN'S STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Northwest, Points, Missouri Western. Rows include 79, 45.8, 34, 8, 30.0, 16, 10, 80.0, 3.

MEN'S GAME LEADERS

Table with 2 columns: Points, Rebounds, Assists, FG percentage, 3-pt percentage. Rows list player names and statistics.

SCORE BY HALF

MEN (12-12) 37 25 — 62

WOMEN (8-16) 31 36 — 67

WOMEN'S STATISTICS

Table with 3 columns: Northwest, Points, Truman. Rows include 67, 40, 28, 9, 38.5, 10, 6, 90, 2.

WOMEN'S GAME LEADERS

Table with 2 columns: Points, Rebounds, Assists, FG percentage, 3-pt percentage. Rows list player names and statistics.

'CATS: 13-point win keeps men in the hunt

Continued from B1

'Hey we saw you on TV.' It always comes up. It's a big trunk card." Northwest basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer doesn't see any particular significance of the game though. "I'm not sure what the whole thing's about," Tappmeyer said. "The stuff I get from the NCAA in e-mails and the people in Warrensburg think it's a pretty big deal. I haven't heard that much around here to know exactly how big of a deal it is. I guess it's probably a bigger deal if it's your home court." Once the game starts, the coaches and players will notice one major difference from the other games they've played in this season, the presence of TV timeouts. The added breaks may give the 'Cats an extra benefit they didn't have when they defeated the Mules 61-57 at Bearcat Arena just more than a month ago. "They are much more of a team that wants to play up-tempo and that sort of thing, so any way of breaking the game up a little bit could

prove to be to our advantage," Tappmeyer said. The game comes on the heels of a 79-66 win at Missouri Western last Saturday. Edriss Floyd loosened up the Griffins defense by shooting 4-of-8 from the field, including a pair of threes in a 10-point first half. Hunter Henry and Elijah Allen took the reigns in the second half and pounded the Griffins in the paint. Henry scored 19 second half points, and Allen scored 11, as the duo matched Westerns entire first half output. Between the big win over arch rival Western on Saturday, and the televised game this Saturday, the 'Cats must take care of 6-18 Truman on Wednesday though to remain in control of their own destiny. "Getting a win on national TV would be pretty cool," junior guard Mike Larsen said. "We've got to come out and get a win against Truman before we start focusing on the game for Saturday though." Tip-off time for Northwest's match-up with Central is set for 11 a.m.

62 - 51 WIN OVER TRUMAN



A STIFLING DEFENSE and clutch sharp-shooting gave Northwest its second consecutive double-digit victory Wednesday night. Truman cut the Bearcat lead to three with just more than five minutes to go, but Larsen hit back-to-back threes following a timeout to boost the lead to nine. Another three by Larsen, and Henry's third three sealed the game. photo by seih cook photography editor

BASEBALL: Pitching leads to win

Continued from B1

13 plate appearances to this point in the season (.536 average) and has shown a tremendous amount of plate discipline for as early in the season as it is. "Offensively, Tim Beck is swinging a hot bat in centerfield for us," said Loe. From a pitching standpoint, the results have been scattered. Disselhoff has shown tremendous promise. In his start against Arkansas

Tech, the pitcher allowed only one run in five innings of work while striking out four. His performance on the mound led to a 6-1 win in the Bearcats' favor, and also secured the sweep against a tough Tech squad. Harvel also managed to secure a win in his first start of the season against Indianapolis. The senior out of Lee's Summit, MO., went 5.1 innings, allowing three runs while striking out a team leading six batters on

Northwest's way to a 4-3 victory. The Bearcats take a quick breather today before kicking off a brief series against Southern Arkansas in Magnolia, Ark., on Friday. Northwest's long road trip finally comes to a halt on Saturday when the team squares off with Southern Indiana for a lone, nine inning match-up. "It's a good start for us," Loe said. "Obviously; we'd like to keep it going."

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For the love of springtime sports, weather and females

After months of trudging through snow and suffering sub-zero wind chills whipping across my face as I walk to class, I am ready for spring. Here are the top 5 reasons why:

**March Madness-** What sports fan doesn't love March Madness? It's the way a champion should be decided. No BCS. No discrimination against the smaller conferences. If you win your conference tournament you're in, period. Every Cinderella team has an equal chance of making it to the championship game. There is some bias toward the big conferences, but the basis remains the same: if you want the chance to dance, just win your conference.

**Baseball season-** Every Royals

fan's dreams are still intact at this point. There is fresh hope every year that maybe we can become this year's miracle team. With some key off-season additions, rather than losses as usual, this year seems especially promising. Maybe Jose Guillen will decide that he doesn't hate Kansas City as much as he thought and maybe produce like the all-star he is supposed to be. Maybe this is the year Alex Gordon decides to break through, and maybe this is the year Tony Pena Jr. decides to quit being the equivalent



Christopher Woodland  
Sports Editor

of a bicycle entering the Daytona 500 every time he steps to the plate. Maybe they won't finish last.

**All the sports-** This is the time of year where just about every sport is in season. Football is preparing for the scouting combine and the NFL draft. Every stat junkie is analyzing every last college player from everything from

corner. Basketball is starting to get interesting after regular seasons that don't mean much until football season ends. Hockey enters the home stretch now too. Even NASCAR has just begun.

**The ability to get outside-** After months of sitting inside and eating fast food, who can resist the temptation to barbeque some meat? Who doesn't like to get out and enjoy some nice weather, throw a ball around, chip a few golf balls, just be active?

**The girls-** Come on, let's face it, who doesn't enjoy how when the weather begins to warm up the ladies begin to venture out in mini-skirts and tank tops. After four months of over coats and bundle-up attire, it appeases the eye.

POWER RANKINGS

Men

	MIAA	OVERALL
X- Southwest Baptist (5)	13-3	20-3
X- Central Missouri (11)	13-3	20-3
X- Fort Hays	10-6	17-6
UNO	9-7	15-8
Emporia State	9-8	15-9
Washburn	9-8	13-11
Missouri Western	9-8	11-13
Missouri Southern	7-9	17-9
Northwest	6-10	11-12
Pitt State	5-11	10-13
Truman	1-16	6-18

X- clinched MIAA tournament berth \* Wednesday games not included.

Women

	MIAA	OVERALL
X- Emporia State (8)	15-2	21-3
X- Washburn (9)	14-3	21-3
X- Pittsburg State	12-4	17-6
X- Missouri Southern	11-5	17-6
X- Central Missouri	10-6	15-8
X- UNO	8-8	12-10
Fort Hays	5-11	9-14
Missouri Western	5-12	5-18
Southwest Baptist	4-12	7-16
Northwest	3-13	7-16
Truman State	3-14	4-18

X- clinched MIAA tournament berth \*Wednesday games not included.

SPORTS STAFF GAME PICKS

Woody's picks  
Prediction record (8-12)

**NCAA Lock**  
Wake Forest at Duke — Duke

The Blue Devils have struggled lately, but three-point shooting teams tend to fall into slumps from time to time. They will come out of it this weekend.

**NCAA Upset**  
Butler at Davidson — Davidson

Some people have said that Davidson and Stephen Curry lack the magic they conjured up last year during tournament time, but Curry is averaging 29 points per game, and should return this week and Davidson is 22-4 this year.

**NCAA Lock**  
Cornell at Yale — Cornell

Yale is a much better team when they play at home than when they play on the road, but Cornell is the cream of the Ivy League crop.

**NASCAR @ California Auto Club Speedway** — Jimmie Johnson

My gut says Kasey Kahne, and I want to take Jeff Gordon for a win in his home state, and also because of the wreck he caused last weekend, but after not leading for a single lap at the Daytona 500, I think his crew will make the adjustments and come out strong.

**NBA Lock**  
Chicago at Indiana — Pacers

These two teams are fighting for the final playoff spot in the Eastern conference, but both are currently out of it. Danny Granger got the better of LeBron James last week though, so I'm betting on him.

Brian "The Bulldog's" picks  
Prediction record (7-13)

**NCAA Lock**  
Washington at UCLA — UCLA

UCLA is on a two-game losing streak going on the road against both the Arizona schools. After back-to-back losses they'll be looking to come away with an upset of the Pac-10 leader on their home courts.

**NCAA Upset**  
Nebraska at Kansas — GO BIG RED

If Nebraska wants to make the tourney, they need a big win now. Beating the defending National Champs at home would be a huge win for the 'Skers. It's a long shot, but if Jason really thinks KU has a chance against Oklahoma, then this isn't that big of an upset at all.

**NCAA Lock**  
Cincinnati at Baltimore — Cincy

I wish Joe Flacco luck and hope he ends up having a great NFL career. But I think nerves will get the best of the ex-Delaware QB and he will fall flat on his face in his NFL debut.

**NASCAR @ California Auto Club Speedway** — Ricky Bobby

If you're not first, you're last. What? Will Ferrell doesn't really drive NASCAR? Well, I guess I'll take Jeff Gordon then since he is the only other racer I know. Shake and Bake baby.

**NBA Lock**  
Phoenix at Lakers — Lakers

I'll take the Lakers.

Jason's picks  
Prediction record (10-10)

**NCAA Lock**  
Villanova at Syracuse — 'Nova

Before the loss to West Virginia, Villanova was starting to put it together, winning six straight. They'll put it back together and pick up another win over Syracuse, just like at home when they won by 17.

**NCAA Upset**  
Kansas at Oklahoma — Kansas

I'll stand by my team. Plus OU should be ranked No. 1 in the nation and No. 1's have not lasted. Unfortunate for Oklahoma because they're the better team, but my 'Hawks take them down.

**NCAA Lock**  
Utah State at St. Mary's — Utah State

I know, this is just out there, but I like Utah State and I think they'll do some damage come tournament time and St. Mary's is a solid mid-major, but the Aggies are a better team and will pick up the win on St. Mary's home court.

**NASCAR @ California Auto Club Speedway** — Carl Edwards

Edwards was the last driver to win this race not named Jimmie, winning it this time last year. I like his odds on a course that he is familiar with and knows how to win on.

**NBA Lock**  
Detroit at Boston — Celtics

The Celtics are on a slightly better pace than last year's title team, so they're the obvious choice to beat a Detroit team that needs to bring Allen Iverson off the bench.

Dustin's picks  
Prediction record (14-6)

**NCAA Lock**  
Kansas at Oklahoma — OU

After KU's demoralizing loss to rival Mizzou in Columbia there is no way the Jayhawks can go into Norman and beat the Sooners. Plus, by this time the Sooners should be No. 1 team in the nation.

**NCAA Upset**  
Washington at UCLA — Wash

Washington is a surprise in the PAC 10 this season and UCLA keeps losing games. I remember the movie 'The Sixth Man' where the Huskies lost their start player and still found a way to win, well I say they'll do it again against the Bruins.

**NCAA Upset**  
Utah State at St. Mary's — Mary's

Utah State is tearing up the WAC. I didn't know they even played basketball. Plus, St. Mary's has only lost five games this season and spent a lot of it in the top 25.

**NASCAR @ California Auto Club Speedway** — Matt Kenseth

I have no clue how to pick the winner of a NASCAR race, but for some reason I have to. So I'll just go with the guy who won in Daytona last week, I think that means he's good, but maybe not.

**NBA Lock**  
Miami at Orlando — Magic

I'm taking Dwight Howard and the Magic over the Heat. The Magic are one of the top-tier teams in the NBA.

MIAA STATISTICS

MEN'S SCORING MARGIN

# Team	G	OFF	DEF	Margin
1. Central Missouri	23	80.0	63.9	+16.2
2. Southwest Baptist	23	89.6	74.5	+15.1
3. Nebraska-Omaha	23	82.5	75.3	+7.1
4. Fort Hays State	23	70.7	64.2	+6.4
5. Emporia State	24	77.1	71.7	+5.5
6. Washburn	24	78.8	74.2	+4.5
7. Missouri Southern	26	75.0	70.9	+4.2
8. Northwest	23	70.7	67.6	+3.1
9. Pitt State	23	74.3	73.4	+1.0
10. Missouri Western	24	75.2	74.7	+0.6
11. Truman	24	62.3	69.5	-7.2

WOMEN'S SCORING MARGIN

# Team	G	OFF	DEF	Margin
1. Emporia State	24	86.9	64.4	+22.5
2. Washburn	24	72.1	58.7	+13.5
3. Pittsburg State	23	76.5	65.7	+10.7
4. Missouri Southern	23	67.3	61.3	+6.0
5. Nebraska-Omaha	22	71.3	66.4	+4.9
6. Central Missouri	23	71.3	67.8	+3.5
7. Fort Hays State	23	67.3	64.6	+2.7
8. Southwest Baptist	23	75.0	79.0	-4.0
9. Northwest	23	67.1	73.4	-6.3
10. Missouri Western	23	64.4	71.7	-7.3
11. Truman	24	60.2	67.5	-7.3

MEN'S SCORING LEADERS

# Player-Team	Cl	Games	Pts Avg/G
1. Rogers, Matthew-SBU	JR	23	19.7
2. Jenkins, Michael-UNO	SR	23	17.3
Taylor, Carlos-PSU	SR	23	17.3
Henry, Hunter-NWMSU	SR	23	17.3
5. Eggins, DeAndre-WU	SR	22	16.7
6. Albers, Mitch-UNO	SO	23	16.6
7. Wilbern, Lamar-ESU	JR	24	15.2
8. Harris, D'Ante-SBU	SR	23	15.0
9. Young, Joe-UCM	SR	23	14.9
10. Johnson, Lonnell-MWSU	SR	24	14.7

WOMEN'S SCORING LEADERS

# Player-Team	Cl	G	Pts Avg/G
1. Bright, Janice-WU	SR	24	18.4
2. Creed, Courtney-SBU	SR	23	16.9
3. McCombs, Nicole-PSU	JR	23	16.5
4. Mueller, Georgia-TSU	SR	23	16.3
5. Biel, Erica-FHSU	JR	23	15.9
6. Boston, Cassandra-ESU	JR	24	15.4
7. Bancroft, Naomi-FHSU	JR	23	15.0
8. Brue, Meghan-NWMSU	SR	23	14.9
9. Edwards, Ida-ESU	SR	24	14.4
10. Leiker, Andrea-ESU	SR	21	13.5

MEN'S REBOUNDING


# Player-Team	Cl	G	Avg/G
1. Henry, Hunter-NWMSU	SR	23	8.7
2. Rogers, Matthew-SBU	JR	23	8.0
3. Stukes, TJ-PSU	JR	23	7.8
4. Wilbern, Lamar-ESU	JR	24	7.5
5. Peintner, Tim-FHSU	JR	22	6.9
6. Petersen, Justin-UNO	SR	22	6.4
7. Kimble, Darnell-WU	SR	24	6.2
8. Ateba, Vincent-MSSU	SR	25	6.0
9. Herrman, Ryan-FHSU	JR	23	5.9
10. Kuntzsch, Corbin-FHSU	SO	23	5.8

WOMEN'S REBOUNDING

# Player-Team	Cl	G	Avg/G
1. Biel, Erica-FHSU	JR	23	11.5
2. Edwards, Ida-ESU	SR	24	10.1
3. Brodsack, Amanda-UNO	SR	22	8.1
4. Mueller, Georgia-TSU	SR	23	7.4
5. McCombs, Nicole-PSU	JR	23	7.4
6. Brue, Meghan-NWMSU	SR	23	7.2
7. Joya, Laura-TSU	JR	24	6.5
8. Roberts, Rebecca-UCM	SO	23	6.3
9. Gilbert, Candice-PSU	SR	23	6.1
10. Clark, Morgan-FHSU	JR	23	6.0

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Top 4 picks

By Marshall Carlson  
Entertainment Reporter

New TV Episode this week – A new episode of “Survivor Tocantins: The Brazilian Highlands” will air tonight. The second episode of the show’s 18th season is sure to feature harsh immunity and reward challenges. The original “Survivor” was located off the coast of Borneo, Malaysia, and premiered in May 2000. In this reality show, contestants are abandoned in a deserted location, split up into two teams, and try to “outwit, outplay and outlast” all of the other contestants. The castaways compete in various physical and mental challenges in order to gain immunity from being voted off, as well as rewards. This new season of “Survivor” is sure to bring in new twists.

New to theaters this week – Coming to theaters tomorrow is “Tyler Perry’s Madea Goes to Jail.” A high-speed car chase brings grandma Madea into the courtroom to defend herself, but in the courtroom her short temper shines through and lands her a spot in jail. Meanwhile, Madea’s family bands together to offer her a little help, as things are looking bright for Assistant District Attorney Joshua Hardaway. However, Hardaway is granted with a case that touches on a touchy subject – defending Candace Washington, a prostitute and former drug addict – she asks fiancée Linda Holmes to take over for him. In jail, Madea watches over Washington and takes her under her wing.

New band to check out – Up-and-coming group Carolina Liar is seeking its taste of the spotlight. The band has already been featured on an episode of TV’s “90210” earlier this month, where the group played their hits “I’m Not Over” and “Show Me What I’m Looking For.” Lead vocalist and guitarist Chad Wolf says he has always considered South Carolina his home, while his other five band mates originate from Sweden. The band released their first album in May 2008 that reached No. 7 on Billboard’s Top Heatseekers. With a hot start already, Carolina Liar is one band you should definitely keep your eye on.

New DVD release this week – “Changeling” was released on Tuesday. Angelina Jolie stars in this drama based on real events that occurred in 1928. Christine (Jolie of “Mr. and Mrs. Smith”) and her son, Walter, were living happily in their Los Angeles suburban home. But one Saturday morning, Christine leaves for work, not knowing that this would be the day she would remember for the rest of her life. Upon arriving back home after a day at work, she finds that Walter has disappeared. Christine conducts searches over the following months, but they fail. As things are looking grim, a boy claiming to be her son shows up at her door. As much as she wants to accept that this is her son, she believes with all her heart that he isn’t. This leads her to question the Prohibition-era police, a bad idea because they fight back, accusing her of being an unfit parent.

STROLLER

Your Man says save the bees

Bees are fundamental to our very existence, and they are dying in large numbers. I am fully aware that this has been going on for years, but I’m not fully sure that most people know. And this is way deeper than honey. Bees pollinate pretty much every fruit and vegetable we eat and a few are pollinated only by bees.

Without bees doing what they do, you can probably guess what happens. We all die. There’s a quote from Albert Einstein that says: “If the bees disappeared off the surface of the globe, then man would only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man.”

Einstein said that, friends. If you haven’t heard of him, just trust me, he was a smart guy. It’s safe to say that he knew what he was talking about.

A man named Rudolf Steiner, a philosopher and activist against the use of chemicals made a prediction in 1923. He said that if people continued to use fertilizers and breed for specific traits, bad things would happen. His prediction was that if the manipulation of bee hives continued, we would see

massive bee deaths in 80 years.

Now it’s 2009, bees are dying, and the question of why still isn’t answered. Most experts think it is because of human interference, like radiation from cell phone towers and genetic mutation of crops. But most importantly, bees are treated like cattle, bred for certain qualities and shipped all over the country.

I don’t want to sound like a hippie, but this completely disrupts the natural process. We need to stop messing with things that are none of our business. Leave it to humans to fix things that aren’t broke.

They even breed out aggressive qualities. Yeah, it hurts to get stung, but that’s what bees do. That’s like taking away a dog’s ability to bark. The bees can’t defend themselves from the parasites that are also killing them.



The Stroller

Natural selection is huge and with our technology we allow things to live that should have no chance. Get mad if you want, but I think that’s a large part of our problems. People are supposed to die, especially those with terminal diseases that we can now cure.

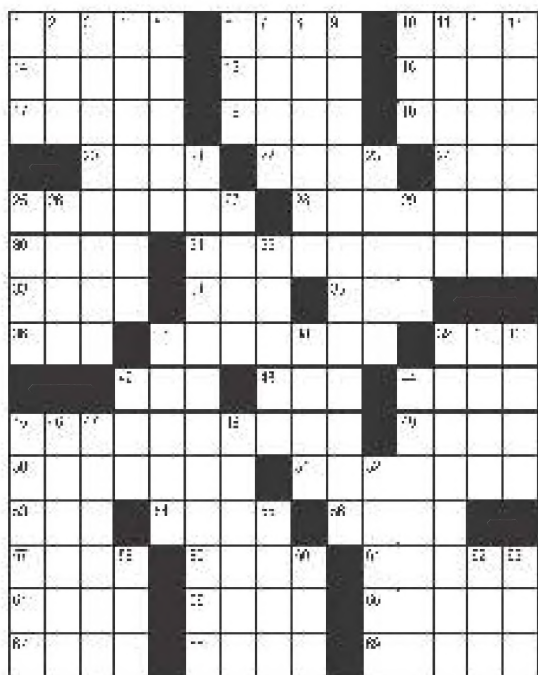
This same meddling attitude is what is killing the bees. Genetic engineering to me is like inbreeding. To each his own, but it only makes family reunions awkward.

And I don’t want to starve to death. The thing is, history has proved that the more humans have a hand in something, the more it ends up worse than before. So stop squishing bees or we are all going to die.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

Crossword

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41 In need



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2/19/09

Solutions

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100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110

REVIEW

Friday the 13th remake a cliché; ‘stabs franchise to death’

By Brian Johnson  
Entertainment Reporter

It seems fitting that “Friday the 13th” was released on that day because bad luck was written all over this film. This poor excuse for a horror remake, much less a horror film was the top film at the box office this weekend but was certainly not top in quality.

Where to begin? This remake directed by Marcus Nispel (“The Texas Chainsaw Massacre”) is basically a condensed version of the first three films in the “Friday the 13th” franchise. Let’s face it, those films weren’t gems either. Yes, they are cult classics among the horror movie crowd but as far as well put-together films, I think it’s obvious they certainly weren’t that. Recycling is not always a good thing as evident in this case.

After watching “Friday the 13th,” I felt like I was watching a bad software porn movie on Cinemax. While I’m certainly not a prude, by the time I saw the third nude girl in less than 45 minutes it just became funny



and redundant. I will give them originality points for a topless girl water-skiing. I certainly had never seen that before. There were also so many bong hits in this film that at times I thought I was watching a news report on Michael Phelps.

All of this stuff is entertaining but Nispel should’ve been reminded that he was making a horror film, not a B-level cable

TV movie. There are no retainable elements that make this a good horror movie. Yes, there are the typical pop-out scare scenes, but really, how many times have we seen that and how many times must we pay to see it?

We need the retainable elements of classic horror movies. Films like “The Exorcist,” “Poltergeist,” “Vertigo” and “Rear Window” were great because of

their ability to tap into our biggest fears whether it’s fear of the unknown, phobias or mistrust in others. I don’t think anyone has ever been worried about a drowned boy coming back to life and killing people.

The creators of the “Friday the 13th” franchise prided themselves on the creativity of the kills in the films and Nispel seemed to completely ignore that fact.

We’ve all seen numerous films where a killer uses a huge knife (or in this case, a machete) and stabs someone. Nispel could’ve used this film as a platform for creativity in kills, so to say, but he didn’t and we were left with more of the same.

The Jason Voorhees character has always been a character of no emotion and has been more like a force rather than a person. In this film, they practically stripped away the mystique and made him seem like a typical homicidal killer which is something that Jason never was in the original franchise. There’s hardly any back story, which seemed like too much of a task to ask of Nispel because he was concentrating on nudity and drug references.

“Friday the 13th” will not even leave a ripple in the vast ocean of horror films. It is invariably a disaster in every sense of the word and has become just another clichéd horror film and may have finally stabbed the franchise to death. Jason Voorhees should’ve stayed at the bottom of the lake for this one.

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THE 81ST ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS WILL AIR AT 7:30 P.M., SUNDAY ON ABC. CATCH RED-CARPET INTERVIEWS WITH CELEBRITIES AS THEY ARRIVE AT THE KODAK THEATRE IN HOLLYWOOD, BEGINNING AT 7 P.M.

# THE ENVELOPE PLEASE...

Check out who we want to win and what the experts predict for Hollywood's big night

By Sydney Moore  
Features Editor

## Best Picture

"Milk"  
I'm a big fan of controversial topics, which is why "Milk," the story of a gay activist turned politician in the 1970s, is my pick to grab the award. The film shows the life of Harvey Milk, a gay activist who runs for a political office with his lover, Scott Smith, as his campaign manager. After losing several elections for city and state positions, Milk becomes the first openly gay man to win an election for a political office in San Francisco in 1977. The story of triumph and success is sure to tug at your heartstrings.



## Best Director

Gus Van Sant, "Milk"  
Van Sant brought us movies such as "Good Will Hunting" (1997), and "Psycho" (1998), both award-winning films. He was nominated for Best Director for "Good Will Hunting" in 1998, making this his second run at an Oscar. Hopefully, Van Sant will have better luck with his second nomination and score a win this year.

## Best Actor

Sean Penn, "Milk"  
I can't seem to get away from thinking about Sean Penn as Jeff Spicoli in 1982's "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," so seeing him play a serious role as Harvey Milk is a total turn around. Penn has played some impressive roles since "Fast Times," including films such as "Mystic River," for which he won an Oscar, and "I Am Sam," which landed him

a nomination. It has been five years since Penn won an Oscar and I think he is past due.

## Best Actress

Meryl Streep, "Doubt"  
I won't lie, I chose Meryl Streep just on the basis of her being Meryl Streep. In the past 30 years, Streep has been nominated for a grand total of 15 Oscars, and only walked away with two — one for Best Actress in a Leading Role for "Sophie's Choice" (1983) and Best Actress in a Supporting Role for "Kramer vs. Kramer" (1980). After so many years, I think it would be refreshing to see this star shine again.

## Best Supporting Actor

Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"  
This is totally obvious. I agree with Brian when he says naysayers will be shouting it's a sympathy win, but I wholeheartedly think Ledger deserves the award. He portrayed the Joker in a way that I definitely didn't expect. From all the hype before the movie was released, I knew his character was something to appreciate, but his portrayal was better than I ever imagined.

## Best Supporting Actress

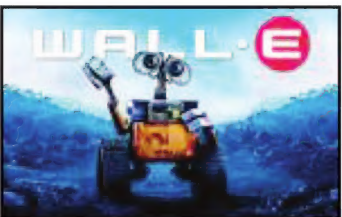
Viola Davis, "Doubt"  
As a first-time Oscar nominee, I want Davis to walk away with the win for her role as Mrs. Miller in "Doubt," alongside



Hathaway, I just have a soft spot for the underdog.

## Best Animated Feature

"Wall-E"  
If "Bolt" beats "Wall-E," I might cry. There is something about little robots in love that just makes my heart smile, not to mention how angry I would be if a Miley Cyrus film won an Oscar. "Wall-E" was a nice change from other Pixar movies such as "Finding Nemo," or "Ratatouille," and as much as I love classics like "Toy Story" and one of my favorites, "Monster's Inc.," seeing Wall-E and Eve fall in love in time when the world needed a little happiness was really heartwarming. "Wall-E" and Pixar should definitely be commended Sunday night.



## Best Original Song

"Down to Earth," from "Wall-E"  
Maybe I'm just partial to "Wall-E," but I think the Peter Gabriel tune has a much better shot at winning this category than the two songs from "Slumdog Millionaire." Although it's predicted to sweep the Oscars, "Down to Earth" definitely has my vote, for whatever it's worth. Plus, how can you do anything but love that little robot?

By Brian Johnson  
Entertainment Reporter

## Best Picture

"Slumdog Millionaire"  
The rags-to-riches story of an Indian boy from the slums of Dubai after earning a spot on "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?" is the most complete film of 2008. With amazing visual cinematography, music, acting and a very original plot, it's hard to think of what can even hold a candle to this extraordinary film.



## Best Director

David Fincher for, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"  
It's high time to see one of the best directors in Hollywood win this Oscar. The brain behind "Fight Club," "Se7en" and "Panic Room" certainly hit another home run in the story of a man who ages backwards in "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button." The film also shows Fincher's versatility to go from his previous darker films like "Fight Club" to a completely different type of film in his epic 2008 creation.

## Best Actor

Mickey Rourke, "The Wrestler"  
The most heart-wrenching character of 2008 came in the form of Randy "The Ram" Robinson and Rourke was the perfect actor to portray it. The broken-down, lonely, professional wrestler



captures your imagination in a performance that transcends any sports movie. Rourke makes the comeback of the decade in a performance that will leave tears in your eyes up until the film's heart-breaking climax.

## Best Actress

Kate Winslet, "The Reader"  
Another award that is a long time coming, Winslet absolutely deserves this. She had a large task at hand as Hanna Schmitz, a former Nazi concentration camp guard on trial in "The Reader." Winslet is impressive in just about every movie she has done and this film is no exception. I've always thought it was just a matter of when she would win this award and I think the time is now.



## Best Supporting Actor

Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"  
One of the best actors of our generation will get what he deserves on Oscar night. In "The Dark Knight" Ledger portrayed the Joker as the most impressive villain since Anthony Hopkins as Hannibal Lector and changed superhero movies forever. Naysayers will say that if he wins he was awarded the Oscar because of his death, but this is not the case. It was the performance of his life and no other version of the Joker will be as special as the one Ledger left us with.



## Best Supporting Actress

Taraji P. Henson, "The Curious Case of Benjamin

## MSN Predictions

**Best Picture**  
"Slumdog Millionaire"  
**Best Director**  
Danny Boyle, "Slumdog Millionaire"  
**Best Actor**  
Sean Penn, "Milk"  
**Best Actress**  
Kate Winslet, "The Reader"  
**Best Supporting Actor**  
Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"  
**Best Supporting Actress**  
Penélope Cruz for "Vicky Cristina Barcelona."

Button"  
Henson certainly made a newcomer impact in "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" as Benjamin's adoptive mother. Her inspirational and sassy character reminded me of Haddie McDaniel's performance as Mammy in "Gone With the Wind" and I expect Henson to surprise people with this win.

## Best Animated Feature

"Wall-E"  
This mix of "2001: A Space Odyssey" and "Toy Story" captivated families and people of all ages and will certainly take home the Oscar. Who knows though? "Bolt" may surprise us all and win it, and then we can say Miley Cyrus was in an Academy Award-winning film.



## Best Original Song

"Down To Earth," "Wall-E"  
This song by the legendary Peter Gabriel was snubbed at the Golden Globes but it certainly has a chance this year. It will be tough to overcome the two stellar Indian songs of "Slumdog Millionaire," but I think this song is much more to the Academy's tastes and be an upset win.